

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1851.

resumed the consideration of

is unexpressed and not disconcerting. I am sure that according to the rule which I have laid down, that if we were to pass resolutions in this body, or if joint resolutions were passed by Congress, prescribing the faith of either party, or what their principles should be, every one who did not come within the exact measure prescribed would be represented as a traitor to the cause of his party, and of his country, not where he would have a hearing, because he would be excluded. He would not have the privilege of a hearing. Sir, I am for leaving to every gentleman a own conscience, and to the high motive of love of country and patriotism, to determine with which party he will be connected. I am for leaving to every gentleman a representative of a party is brought forward, and that representative is sustained, though not agreeing in opinion with all of those who elected him. I should say that he was entitled to his consideration, and that he should be received by the members of the other party, and that he should be permitted within it he is bound by its general principles.

It is the boast of the democratic party, I believe, that it is the true conservative party of the country, though,

Now, let me say, senators, if our Union and system are to be preserved, we must be prepared to share the weight of so many great people who have gone before us, as historian who, in some future day, may record the names of those who have been faithful to the principles we are cherishing to the ordinance of 1787, as faulted as it is and as authors have been, as the first in that series which led to the present. His name will be remembered as the one who was faithful to the next to the present agitation. Whether or not we will be another beyond I know not. It will depend on what we may do."

Here was a formal repudiation of the Missouri compromise, and the Union, and by which one-third of her territorial limits had been cut off to free soil. As Texas had come into the Union upon that line, I felt warranted

[illegible]

various had been adopted. Since these resolutions were adopted an entire session had elapsed, and the commencement of a new session of Congress, a resolution is offered which again has been adopted, and has opened, the aggravating agitation. It is a REPEATING RESOLUTION upon a series of resolutions, and measures, too, acquiesced in by nearly the whole country. Where, sir, is the practicability of this question? Its friends have not shown it, and cannot. Its influences are already apparent as defeating the object of the compromise. It is a resolution, the last of a series, and it cannot consistently vote for it. Now, sir, introduce a resolution here, declaring that the independent treasury bill shall be a final adjustment of the question, and that no further action be taken on the two hundred and two resolutions which have been introduced, and that no further action be taken on the first proposed that measure, but have since accepted it. If the position of the senator from Mississippi be correct, we must get up a resolution to "compensate upon that measure," and then we must get up another resolution, and then another, and so on, until we are weary of it. It is a course would be ridiculous, and worse—it would be ridiculous, but no

with the pending question.

senator undertakes to intimate, in the very face of the declaration, that he is not a seceder. He formally put in writing and read to the Senate multiplied innuendoes, that he had introduced this for some illicit party purpose; and he has in the Senate, on this occasion, the benefit of a party harangue. I deny the imputation made by

HOUSTON. I especially exempted the senator

NOTE. The senator did exempt me from it, but

Such is my opinion, and I am responsible
 session in every mode known to honorable
 man says he did not sign the Southern Ad-
 I never expected him to do it. I know that
 of that senator (pointing to Mr. Russ) were
 right; and every man knows him to be so,
 and I admire him; and he will allow me to
 that have a true affection for him. I say
 at the motives of anybody else. The sena-
 sign the address. No, sir; but I admit that